

Volunteers rehearse for coming health fair

MEMPHIS — Volunteers for the News 3 Health Fair got to do some "rehearsing" during a trial fair held at Baptist Memorial Hospital's HealthPlex April 2. These volunteers and employees of the fair's major sponsors were invited to receive free health screenings as they prepared for the April 27-May 5 event promoting health awareness.

"This is just a chance to show the volunteers who will be working at the health fair how things will go and that it's a workable idea," says Caryl Markzon, project director for the health fair.

The health fair, sponsored by Baptist Hospital, WREG-TV (Channel 3)

and University of Tennessee Medical Center in conjunction with the National Health Screening Council for Volunteer Organizations, will be held for anyone 18 years of age and older at 50 sites in Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas April 27-May 5.

As fair guests registered, they received a health form to be filled out at the various booths. At no charge, the participants received the screenings which will be offered at the News 3 Health Fair: anemia, glaucoma and oral cancer and measurements of height, weight, blood pressure, hearing and vision.

After the screenings, free counseling and referrals were available also.

For a fee of \$10, participants received an analysis of their blood chemistry for possible problems with diabetes, cholesterol, kidney and liver functions, protein, iron, thyroid and other components. For \$15, a coronary risk profile was available to determine the risk of heart disease.

"You hear better with your right ear than your left," said a volunteer at the hearing screening booth to a surprised 25-year old woman. "People should have one of these screenings once a year. By age 50, thirty percent of people have some hearing loss."

Some fair participants were seen to sidle away from one booth. "Nobody likes what we tell them," explained a

smiling Larry Bosserman, HealthPlex director and site coordinator. The booth offered a screening that tells a person's percentage of body fat.

With an instrument that looks like large kitchen tongs, the Baptist Hospital dietitians lightly pinched participants in key places to determine if they were over or under the ideal range of body fat.

Women should have about 20-22 percent body fat and men should have about 15-17 percent. "I just made them keep doing it until they got it right," laughed one participant.

A standard dentist's chair was set up at the oral cancer screening booth. The dentist who staffed the booth ex-

plained that he examined a person's gums for redness, swelling and mouth sores.

Persons planning to receive blood chemistry screenings at the health fair are asked to bring 22 cents for postage so that the results can be mailed to them. Also those persons should fast for 12 hours before the screening, explained one worker.

The health fair offers health screenings, not medical examinations, emphasized one volunteer. "This can't replace a visit to your physician, but it might offer you a clue that you need to go."

For more information, contact the health fair's hotline at 577-8377.



MEMPHIS — Cindy Taylor, a News 3 Health Fair volunteer, measures Tom Butterick during a mock fair April 2 at Baptist Memorial Hospital's HealthPlex in Memphis. The trial fair was held to prepare workers for the health fair to be held at 50 sites in the Mid-South area April 27-May 5. (Photo by Robert Williams)

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

April 11, 1985

Published Since 1877

Indians ask, "Give gospel to all native Americans"

By Michael Tutterow

DENVER (BP) — Baptist American Indian leaders from seven tribes have proposed a mission strategy for Southern Baptists to reach the nation's 1.4 million native Americans during a national language missions conference.

Meeting at the annual language missions leadership conference sponsored by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, Indian leaders called on Baptists to begin 175 new Indian churches, train 670 Indian pastors, and 4,280 lay leaders.

They also urged Southern Baptists to establish 129 Ethnic Leadership Development Centers for training Indian leaders by 1990.

Southern Baptists work among 97 of the 495 American Indian tribes and bands in the United States and Canada, noted B. Frank Belvin, former national consultant among American Indians for the SBC Home Mission Board. He added 70 percent of all baptized Christian Indians are in six tribes.

The 360 Southern Baptist American Indian congregations includes 12 language families and 22 dialects, Belvin said.

An ad-hoc group of Baptist Indian leaders, led by Russell Begaye, Home Mission Board national consultant for American Indians, recommended goals tied to the denomination's Bold Mission Thrust, Southern Baptists' plan to share the gospel with every person on earth by the year 2000.

Indian leaders called on Southern Baptists to present the gospel to all native Americans while also leading American Indian churches to achieve 13,500 baptisms among American Indians during the next five years.

In addition to starting 175 new In-

dian congregations by 1990, the ad-hoc group called for Southern Baptists to establish 838 new Indian congregations by the end of the decade. They also set a goal of leading 65 Southern Baptist American Indian congregations to start a new mission-type church each year.

The group also encouraged American Indians to be involved in ministry projects and to increase the number of church missions committees in American Indian churches by five percent each year during the next

five years.

Indian leaders divided the nation into four regions and made recommendations for each region ranging from church starting to developing Indian leaders.

Reaching the American Indian with the gospel also will require Southern Baptists to support Indian causes, such as tribal sovereignty; land, water and fishing/hunting rights; and civil rights, said Indian leaders.

Tutterow writes for the Home Mission Board.



Kellys rock on Patterson Porch

Earl Kelly, executive secretary, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and his wife, Marjorie, try out the rockers on the Mississippi Porch at the new WMU Building in Birmingham. The porch has been named for Marjean Patterson, executive director, Mississippi WMU. The Kellys were in Birmingham for the dedication of the building earlier this year. (See story about the porch, on page 4.)

What's Inside?

Editorials, Page 2

Confusion in trustee actions

Faces and Places, Page 9

"God had a design"

Mississippi partnership makes a difference, Page 8

Editorials..... by don mcgregor

Confusion in trustee actions

I do not know Farrar Patterson, the professor at Southwestern Seminary whose career there was continued when there was not a two-thirds vote to fire him, though the trustees did vote 19 to 12 to terminate his relationship with the seminary. It would have taken 21 votes.

Because I have no knowledge of him, I cannot comment on his ability or respectability. I do not have to know him, however, to realize there is something strange about the entire episode.

One wonders how the six points that were used against him could have been put together unless they were to some extent accurate. And if they were to any extent accurate, and one must assume that they were, then the way that the vote fell is a strange circumstance indeed.

It is baffling to the observer sitting on the sidelines and trying to figure the whole thing out.

The baffling thing is that one would have thought that, given the charges, the group that voted to keep him would have been the first to insist on his ouster had they found out about him first.

Their targets have been those seminary professors whom they contend were engaging in liberal teaching. Whether this man's teaching tendencies fell on the liberal or the conservative side is not mentioned in the list of problems. It is simply mentioned that he failed to prepare properly. If we are to guess that indeed he did teach as a conservative, are we going to trade conservative teaching for dedication? It seems there should be two reasons for firing a seminary professor without a second thought. One would be for liberal teaching, and the other would be for lack of effort. It is to be admitted that we would not all be able to agree on what constitutes liberal teaching, but lack of effort is not hard to understand or to document.

But this man's problems continue. The list includes the use of profanity and a poor exhibition of churchmanship, including a lack in stewardship practices.

It is strange that the group of trustees which one would have thought would be the most vocal in demanding his ouster were the ones who voted to support him. Three of those 12, of course, are members of First Church, Dallas. This is the church base for the Criswell Center for Biblical Studies, of which Paige Patterson is president.

The academic affairs committee of the trustees had voted 8 to 1 to recommend the professor's dismissal.

And there is one other condition that needs to be examined as one considers the incident. Ralph Pulley, Dallas attorney and member of First Church, complained about the fact that the charges against the professor were not of a recent nature. And that may be true. It must be remembered, however, that most of the charges that are being used by the same group

as they question the continuation of other seminary professors and a college professor or two also are not of a recent nature. Paul Pressler continues to complain about the fact that Jack Flanders has been head of the religion department at Baylor and that his book, *People of the Covenant*, has been a required textbook. Flanders is no longer chairman of the department, and the book is not even required reading. Yet the complaints continue. He is complaining about a statement written by Roy Honeycutt in a book with a 1970 copyright. The statement is the *Broadman Bible Commentary* and is about the floating axe head incident in II Kings. Honeycutt's statement will have to stand on its own as it relates to a theological position. The fact remains, however, that it is not a recent statement.

Perhaps Pressler's complaints are valid. Surely they are to him and, of course, to many others. But many of them also are based on situations of many years past.

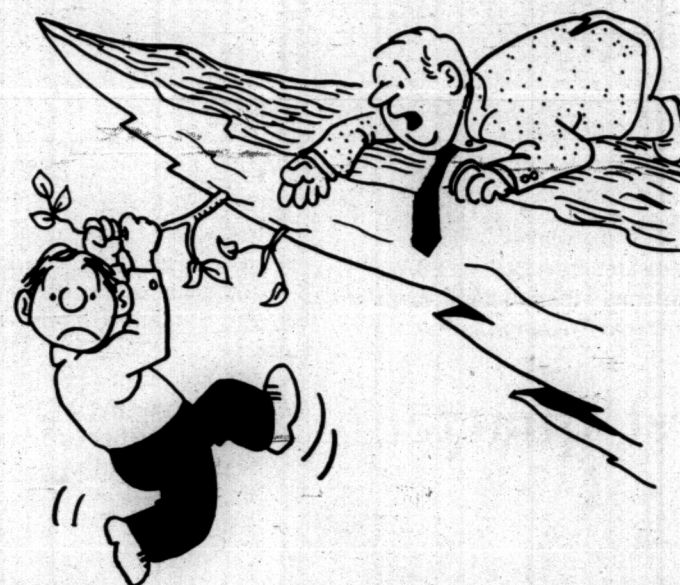
Pressler has suggested in several meetings in Mississippi that Flanders' book may be required reading at Mississippi College. He

doesn't say that it is. He simply says that it may be. That's all it takes to get people stirred up. Faculty members at Mississippi College, however, declare that the book is not even on the library shelves.

We need to get the truth, and we need to have first-rate teachers in our

"NOW LISTEN CLOSELY—
THE FIRST THING WE
MUST DO TO PRAY
EFFECTIVELY IS BE
SINCERE! THEN...."

JOE
MCKEEVER



seminaries. We also need, however, to be consistent in how we go about accomplishing these objectives.

This has all the earmarks of being more of an effort to deal with the president than of being an effort to deal responsibly with a faculty member.

Guest opinion . . .

On eagles' wings

By Mrs. H. E. Klar

Like so many other Christians, my husband and I were enslaved to a schedule that was hectic and time consuming. We were so engrossed in trying to "get ahead" that we failed to put God first in our lives. We attended Sunday morning worship service regularly, but that was our total commitment to the Lord. Ours was the problem of omission.

Our farm, which was 40 miles from town; Henry's job at the office; my teaching position; our professional and social commitments were taking us in all directions. When asked to do any service for the Lord, we answered with that age old excuse, "I don't have time." We were lukewarm Christians, and I felt guilty about it. In keeping with His loving nature, the Holy Scripture began to convict my heart. I could see that we were losing precious opportunities to serve the Lord. As I searched for an answer, this verse came to mind, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; . . ." (Matthew 6:33 KJV) So I started praying about the problem that seemed to be defeating us. "Dear Lord, Help us to realign our priorities so that we can have more time to serve You." He answered my prayer in His own unique way. Henry developed cancer.

Late one evening while we were doing chores at the farm, my healthy, 48-year-old husband suddenly had an excruciating pain in his lower back. It was so severe that he became nauseated and weak. I got him in the car and started for the hospital as he writhed in pain. Heretofore, Henry cautiously obeyed the speed limit, however this time as I exceeded it, he

was completely oblivious to it. I quickly got him to the emergency room, and they gave him medication for pain. Then we went home.

We got the shock of our lives in the days which followed. Tests showed that Henry had carcinoma of the right kidney. He had to have the entire kidney removed. The doctor thought that it had not spread and we felt relieved. However, a few months later, during a routine check-up, the doctor discovered that the tumor had metastasized to both lungs.

Our hearts stood still as the doctor gave his prognosis, "Henry has a combination of Clear Cell and Sarcomatoid cancer, which is very rare. Only three percent of its victims live." He talked about admitting him into the hospital for further tests in the near future. We listened with heavy hearts. We were not willing to accept this devastating news.

As we walked out into the warm afternoon sunshine, we felt entangled in a web of utter helplessness. As people so often do in time of devastation, we turned to God for guidance. "Dear Lord," we prayed, "Show us what to do."

We had heard of the work that was being miraculously done at the M. D. Anderson Hospital and Tumor Institute in Houston, Texas. Our answer came in the midst of all our anxieties and sleepless nights. We would go to Houston. A calm settled over us, and Henry was able to sleep for the first time in many nights.

is terrible!" He got up from his desk and walked out of the room. We had been holding tenaciously to a tiny shred of hope which quickly vanished.

After what seemed like hours, he returned and spoke sternly, "You have one of two alternatives. You can take an experimental treatment, which may work; or you can take hormone medication which probably won't touch the problem."

Without hesitation, Henry agreed to take the treatment. Dr. Samuels said, "This will be a boomer, but your good physical condition will be conducive to its success." He jokingly said, "You will be the Mama of the treatment!" He meant that Henry was the first person to take this particular treatment.

It required a combination of three strong drugs to be given intravenously for seven consecutive days, as an outpatient. Then, we could go home for five weeks, after which we would return to Houston for further medication. The treatments were excruciating, but the Lord gave him the will and determination to continue.

Prayer became a vital part of our lives. We searched the scripture for comfort. Our greatest source of strength came from these words, "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles . . ." (Isaiah 40:31 KJV) Many times, while I was on my knees talking to the Lord, my prayer would come back to me like a flash, "Dear Lord, help us to realign our priorities so that we can have more time to serve You." I would get up with renewed assurance that

Henry would be well again.

After each series of treatments, his blood counts would drop so low that he would hardly have the strength to walk across the room. He lost weight, and his hair came out. He looked much older than his age. But slowly his blood counts would begin to rise, and he would feel stronger.

Although he had built up a number of sick days, he would go back to the office for a few days to assure the continuation of his salary. When it was time to go to Houston, he would be ready. He was determined not to miss a treatment. We can vouch for the fact that sometimes the treatment is worse than the disease.

Henry responded to the chemotherapy from the beginning, and the tumors began to shrink. When we went to Houston for his ninth treatment, the doctor unbelievably said, "The tumors are gone, you don't need another treatment. This is a miracle from God!!"

The skeptic might say these events were coincidental. I say, "The Lord hears and answers prayer." As we look back over those months of agony, it's like a terrible dream. We could not have made it on our own strength. We looked to Him, "... from whence cometh my help." (Psalm 121:1 KJV)

Now, four years later, we still go back to Houston for yearly check-ups, and each time the doctors find that his "lungs are clear." We realize God's hand in the problems we went through, and we thank Him daily for the miracles He performed in our lives. We thank him for Christian doc-

(Continued on page 5)

The Baptist Record

(ISSN-0005-5778)

515 Mississippi Street

P.O. Box 530

Jackson, Miss. 39205

Don McGregor Editor
Tim Nicholas Associate Editor
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Ferrell O. Cork, Jr., Aberdeen; Marcus Finch, Meridian; Bruce Hill, Lexington, vice-chairman; Owen Lusk, Columbia; Robert H. Jackson, Brandon; Dan Thompson, Harpersville, chairman. Ex-officio, Evelyn Keyes, Jackson, secretary.

Subscription \$7.35 a year payable in advance.

Published weekly except week of July 4 and Christmas.

Second Class Postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi.

The Baptist Record is a member of the Southern Baptist Press Association.

Journal of
The Mississippi Baptist
Convention

Charles Pickering

President

Earl Kelly

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

Volume 109

Number 10

500 student leaders elect Valentine

By Linda Moore

Students representing 27 campuses commissioned their 1985 missionaries and elected officers during Leadership Training Conference (LTC) at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian.

Mississippi will send 75 students as summer missionaries to various areas. Twelve will serve in foreign countries and 63 will serve within the United States. Three of the foreign positions are summer and semester positions. The money to send these missionaries is raised entirely by Baptist Student Unions across the state.

A number of the parents of the missionaries were special guests for the Commissioning Service as well as an orientation meeting with Lloyd Luncford, associate director of the Department of Student Work.

The more than 500 students who attended LTC also elected officers for the 1985-86 school year. Scott Valentine, from Mississippi State, was elected president. Vice president is Fran Sumrall from the University of Southern Mississippi, and Sandi Johnson from Mississippi University for Women is secretary. Executive Committee members are Ronny Young, Mississippi College; Angela Rush, Hinds; and Jandra Barnett, Blue Mountain. Pastor advisor will be William Jenkins, of the Yale Street Church in Cleveland. Faculty adviser will be Jeannette Phillips of the University of Mississippi; and Bill Kirkpatrick of Pearl River will be director advisor.

Featured speaker at the conference, Chester Swor, focused his messages on the theme of "Being a Leader." Swor advised the students to "have the heart of Christ, heed the call of Christ, grasp the true meaning of service, and have the humility of Christ."

He warned them that Satan will tempt them to put others before God. Swor said, "Let the Lord control your thinking, your tongue, and your temper."

Larry Cox, missionary to Burkina Faso, spoke for the commissioning service. He stressed the importance of a willingness to serve. Cox said, "God had more trouble getting Jonah

to go than he had getting the people to repent." He added, "What Christ wants us to give most of all is our lives in service for him."

Others on the conference program included Daniel Hathorne (University of Mississippi), 1984-85 state BSU

president; Bruce Fields, minister of youth and activities, First Church, Biloxi; Scott Werner, assistant national coordinator of Centrifuge; and Jerry Merriman, director of Mississippi's Department of Student Work. Several drama and musical

groups also participated in the program. (More pictures, pages 6,7.)

(Linda Moore is a student at Mississippi State University, graduating this spring. Her hometown is Starkville where she is a member of First Church.)

The Baptist Record

Stanley will speak at Mississippi convention

By Tim Nicholas

Charles Stanley, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, will be the closing speaker for the 1985 session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, Nov. 11-13 in Jackson.



Stanley, pastor of Atlanta's First Baptist Church, will be the last of a group of nationally-known preachers to address the annual business meeting of the nearly 2,000 churches which comprise the Mississippi Baptist Convention. The meeting will take place at First Baptist Church, Jackson.

Joining Stanley on the program will be native Mississippian Ed Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church, Houston, Tex.; John Bisagno, pastor of First Baptist Church, Houston, Tex.; William Tanner, former pastor of First Church, Gulfport, and currently president of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board; and Perry Sanders, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lafayette, La.

Mississippians on the program who

will be preaching include Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; Roy Myers, pastor of Rocky Creek Baptist Church, George Association, (considered the largest

rural church in the SBC); and Charles Pickering, president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention and a layman from First Church, Laurel. Myers will be preaching the convention sermon;

(Continued on page 5)



From left and clockwise around the table are members of the MBC committee on order of business: Larry Kennedy, Laurel, chairman; J. W. Brister, Jackson; Earl Kelly, executive secretary, MBCB; Ronnie Massey, Meridian; Charles Pickering, Laurel, MBC president; and George McFadin, Horn Lake. Members not pictured are Mrs. Joy Yates, Yazoo City; and Gordon Sansing, Vicksburg.



The Blue Mountain College Ensemble group performs a theme interpretation for the Leadership Training Conference.

First quarter gifts 1.5% up from '84

Cooperative Program giving in Mississippi for the first quarter of 1985 totaled \$4,194,399, a 1.5 percent increase over giving for the same period in 1984, according to Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Kelly's office receives the Cooperative Program gifts from churches which choose to give to the Southern Baptist system of unified giving.

The money funds a number of statewide agencies including the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, three colleges, and the Baptist Children's Village, also goes to SBC programs nationwide and worldwide. Each church decides the percentage of church gifts which will go to the Cooperative Program, as does each state convention decide what percentage of state gifts goes to the SBC itself.

Mississippi Baptists give just over one third of all income from churches to the SBC program which funds six

(Continued on page 9)

Truitt Roberts, music minister, dies in Starkville

Charles W. Truitt Roberts, 55, died April 6 at Oktibbeha County Hospital, Starkville, of a heart attack. Services



were held at 10 a.m. April 8 at First Baptist Church, Starkville, with a 2 p.m. burial in Baldwin Masonic Cemetery in Baldwin.

Roberts was a member of First Baptist Church, Starkville, and served as its minister of music. He was a member of the American Guild of English Handbell Players, serving as guild chairman in Area V-1. He also was a member of the Mississippi Singing Churchmen's

(Continued on page 9)



Performing during the BSU Leadership Training Conference at Gulfshore is the "Sound of Joy" from Northeast Junior College. (More Linda Moore photos on page 7)

Prayers answered in Guatemala

GUATEMALA CITY, Guatemala — The residency program at Guatemala Baptist Theological Seminary has grown from three students to 13 since reopening in May. Discontinued in 1981 after outside agitation disrupted operations, the program is now growing as a "direct result" of Southern Baptists joining with Guatemala Baptists in prayer, believes missionary John Brackin, seminary dean of academic affairs.

Without any idea of how many students we could realistically expect, I asked (Southern) Baptists to pray that we would have a minimum of 12 students when we opened classes in 1985. God answered our prayer. I wish I had enough faith to ask for 25 students."

Mississippi women furnish Marjean Patterson Porch



Marjean Patterson, center, executive director, Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union, is the person for whom the Patterson Porch is named. Edwina Robinson, retired executive director, Mississippi WMU, is seated in a rocker on the porch. Wilda Fancher, state WMU president, stands alongside Miss Patterson.

"Mississippi Days" set to visit WMU Building

Two days in May, the 17th and 25th, have been designated for Mississippi groups to tour the new WMU national headquarters building in Birmingham, Ala. Of special interest to Mississippi visitors will be the Patterson Porch, furnished by Mississippi WMU and named in honor of Marjean Patterson, executive director of Mississippi WMU.

Tours can be arranged any time from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. and will last approximately one hour. Employees of the headquarters building serve as tour guides and need to know approximately how many to expect each day and the approximate time each group

will arrive at the building.

Several fast-food restaurants are located near the building to provide lunch before or after tours.

Groups planning to go to Birmingham for one of the "Mississippi Days" should send the following information to the WMU Department, P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205: whether your group will go Friday, May 17, or Saturday, May 25; approximately number in group and time of arrival; name and address of your church.

Upon receipt of this information, the WMU Department will send a map giving directions to the building.

"We have had a ball with The Porch . . ." said Catherine Allen. "I said from the beginning I wanted this area to be unique and wanted people to say, 'Nobody but WMU would do it that way.' My wants were satisfied! It is great."

Mrs. Allen, associate executive director of Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, was talking of a long glass-enclosed area of the new WMU, SBC, building on New Hope Mountain, southeast of Birmingham.

The Executive Board of Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union voted to pay for the square footage cost of this area, plus its furnishings, and to name it the Marjean Patterson Porch, in honor of the executive director of Mississippi WMU. The cost totaled \$47,000.

It was the Relocation Committee (on relocating the WMU headquarters in Birmingham) who suggested that state WMU organizations might provide such funds and furnishings. Pattie Dent of Holly Springs, immediate past president of Mississippi WMU, served on that committee.

When the new building was dedicated earlier this year, a sampler was placed on the porch, with the inscription, "In honor of her executive director, Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union lovingly provides the Marjean Patterson Porch, 1985. Use it in joy, please." This sampler was stitched by Barbara Taylor of Crystal Springs, former administrative secretary in the Mississippi WMU office.

Miss Patterson

Marjean Patterson, a native of Atlanta, Ga., has been executive secretary-treasurer of Mississippi WMU, since 1971. Before then, she had been state YWA director and state Baptist Women director for a total of 14 years, so that now she has completed 28 years in Mississippi Baptist work.

She earned a B.A. degree from Carson-Newman College, Jefferson

City, Tenn., and an M.R.E. degree from Carver School of Missions and Social work, now a part of Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky. In her years of WMU work, she has traveled all over the world, to more than 40 foreign mission points.

The porch.

Inside the front entrance of the building is a marble fountain, with a five-foot diameter representation of the world. This fountain was a gift from Alabama WMU in honor of Mary Essie Stephens, their recently retired executive director. Visitors walk around the fountain, through the Georgia lobby and the Texas parlor, and onto the Patterson Porch.

The porch looks like an atrium, a greenhouse—or a Mississippi porch. It actually is the lobby outside the Board Room, which is an auditorium for several hundred. It is used as a resting place for people to sit and look at the outdoor view. It can be used for luncheons, banquets, and receptions. It is often used by the Birmingham staff for lunch or coffee breaks. Right now it is being used as a Sunday School classroom! Already a mission church is meeting in the building and the porch is where one class meets.

Furnishings.

All furnishings on the porch are from Mississippi, except the rag rugs, bought from a Birmingham shop. The solid butcher-block oak furniture was made by the Cedar Bucket, a business operated by the McPhail family near Oxford.

The furniture includes two round 36-inch dropleaf tables, ten ladder-back chairs, a 10-foot harvest table with two benches, two sideboards, a pie safe, a butler's coffee table, wooden wall shelves, a swing on a stand, six large rockers, and a children's corner, with children's furniture and toys.

Shelves of the two sideboards are being filled with typical Mississippi items such as an old sifter, old grater, and butter molds. The pie safe con-

tains food canned in blue jars, and antique utensils, including a 150-year-old home-cast muffin tin.

First Baptist Church, Coffeeville, where Wilda Fancher, state WMU president, is a member, and her husband, James, is pastor, made the friendship quilt which will hang temporarily on the porch until a quilt which shows where Southern Baptists have mission work around the world can be designed, created, and hung.

Cushions for the chairs and swing were made by Jeffrey's Interiors of Grenada. One woman who works there is a member of Baptist Women in her church. The materials are tiny prints and stripes in orchid and rose.

Campaign launched.

Mississippi WMU has launched a campaign to complete payment of The Porch. The campaign is called, "honoring my heritage, lengthening my legacy." As \$17,000 has been sent, \$30,000 is yet to be given. Some are giving gifts in honor of someone who has meant a lot to them in their spiritual journey, or for someone they especially want to honor. A book, with a list of the donors and honorees is kept on the coffee table on The Porch.

Two paintings by Kathleen Parker of Prentiss were presented during the state WMU convention. Some of the furnishings were placed by former and current members of Mississippi WMU Executive Board in honor of Miss Edwina Robinson, retired director, Mississippi WMU. The two sideboards, swing and coffee table, and permanent quilt materials were given by Miss Robinson in honor of her late mother, Mrs. Prudie Robinson.

Said Mrs. Fancher, "The mindset of WMU-ers toward giving is unique. We are accustomed to plan for special over-and-above gifts. That's our spirit. We do not give our tithe to special offerings or to meet special needs not cared for in some budget. We study about the Cooperative Program all year long. WMU folks understand and (Continued on page 11)



Persons walking on the Patterson Porch are looking toward the front entrance of the WMU Building in Birmingham.

EQUITABLE'S Hospital, Medical & Surgical

(Form 440)

Now available, a low-cost Plan to help offset increased cost of Hospital confinements. Provides benefits for:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| *Room & Board | *Hospital Miscellaneous |
| *Surgeons' & Doctors' Visits | *Outpatient |
| *Maternity | *Anesthesia |
| | *Ambulance |

For full information fill out coupon or phone 924-4442

MAIL TO:

Equitable Life & Casualty HUTTON INSURANCE AGENCY

P.O. Box 20257, Jackson, MS 39209

Name _____ Age _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____
Phone _____ Zip _____

BR

Church quartet singing displays state talent

By Don McGregor

Three church quartets were judged gold award winners following an afternoon and an evening of quartet singing at Mississippi College as a part of the anniversary observation celebrating 40 years of organized church ministry in Mississippi.

The observation notes the 40th anniversary of the beginning of the work of the Church Music Department for Mississippi Baptists.

Of the 24 quartets from all over the state that entered the event, nine received awards in three categories. Following a presentation in the MC Coliseum of the top quartets in the three categories, the professional quartet, the Masters V, presented a concert.

The quartet from Union Church, Seminary, was named the gold award winner in Category A, which was for churches with 500 or fewer members. The silver award winning quartet in this category was from Union Church, Mize. The bronze award went to the quartet from First Church, Brooklyn.

In Category B for churches from 500 to 1,000 in membership, the gold award was won by the quartet from Tate Street Church, Corinth. The silver award winning quartet was from First Church, Itta Bena; and the quartet winning the bronze award was from North Greenwood Church, Greenwood.

Category C was for churches above

1,000 in membership. The gold award winning quartet in this category was from Parkway Church, Jackson. The silver award went to Morrison Heights Church, Clinton; and the bronze award went to First Church, West Point.

Other quartets in Category A were from Coldwater Church, Philadelphia; Corinth Church, Magee; Harrisville Church, Harrisville; Oakdale Church, Brandon; Phalti Church, Prentiss; and Pleasant Hill Church, Bogue Chitto.

In Category B the additional entries were from Bel Air Church, Gulfport; Eastlawn Church, Pascagoula; First Church, Flowood; Immanuel Church, Hattiesburg; Monticello Church, Monticello; First Church, Morton; and First Church, Philadelphia.

In Category C the additional churches were First Church, Crystal Springs, and Pass Road Church, Gulfport.

Judges in Category A were Darrel Washam, College Park Church, Monroe, La., and Tommy Echols, Ridge Avenue Church, Monroe. In Category B the judges were Roy Evans of North Monroe Church, Monroe, and Gloria Jones of First Church, West Monroe. In Category C the judges were Lonnie Stewart, First Church, West Monroe, and Dick Day, First Church, Bastrop, La.



Category A Quartet winners from Union Church, Seminary: Philip Butler, Denise Lee, Terry Trigg, and Timothy Trigg. Mary Ann Lee is the accompanist.



Category B Quartet winners from Tate Street Church, Corinth: Richard Tenhet, James Lewis, Truman Dawson, and John McDonough. Donna McDonough is the accompanist.



Category C Quartet winners from Parkway Church, Jackson: Troy Townsend, David Dennis, Eddie Joe, and Billy Causey. Carol Joy Sparkman is at the piano, and John Yates plays the trumpet.



The Masters V Quartet sings at the concluding service of the state gospel quartet sing in the coliseum of Mississippi College as a part of the 40th anniversary observation of the Mississippi Baptist Church Music Department.

Stanley will speak in Jackson

(Continued from page 3)

Pickering the presidential address. Bible teacher for the convention will be Joel Gregory, professor of preaching at Southwestern Seminary, Ft. Worth. Gregory, who offered theme interpretations during the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Pittsburgh, will be preaching to Mississippi Baptists in all six sessions of the convention, with 25 minutes allotted for each.

Each year's convention is planned by a committee elected by the convention itself. This year's chairman, Larry Kennedy of Laurel, reported that the committee's choices for convention speakers was a direct result of a vote by last year's convention. The MBC voted not to begin a separate pastors' conference meeting,

but, instead, to strengthen programs of the convention and the Evangelism-Bible Conference. Increasing the time given to inspirational messages at the MBC is a part of that strategy, said Kennedy.

Kennedy noted, though, that the primary purpose of the MBC is to conduct the business of the convention which handles more than \$25 million annually. Reports from the various agencies which are a part of the convention will be featured throughout the six sessions which begin on Monday afternoon, Nov. 11, and conclude at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 13.

The messages of the convention will be tying in with the emphasis on evangelism. Theme this year will be "Let Us Go and Tell," taken from II Kings 7:9. The convention theme also

ties in with the 1986 nationwide evangelistic campaign "Good News America, God Loves You." This will be a campaign of simultaneous revivals in which a number of Mississippi Baptist churches will be participating.

In addition, this year's convention will be the 150th annual meeting. To celebrate, there is being written an historical drama by Everett Robertson of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville with help from the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission.

Besides Kennedy, other order of business committee members include George McFadin, Horn Lake; J. W. Brister, Jackson; Gordon Sansing, Vicksburg; Mrs. James Yates, Yazoo City; and Ronnie Massey, Meridian.

Get SMART: ban alcohol ads

WASHINGTON (BP) — Encouraged by "remarkable public response," leaders of a nationwide campaign against broadcast advertising of alcoholic beverages have reissued an appeal for petition signatures in support of the movement.

Project SMART (Stop Merchandising Alcohol on Radio and Television) has secured more than 760,000 signatures on petitions asking President Reagan and Congress to ban TV and radio ads for alcoholic beverages or to require broadcasters to give equal time to health messages about alcohol.

Spearheaded by the Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI), the project was launched last June with the support of organizations such as the National PTA, the National Council on Alcoholism, and Action for Children's Television.

SMART's supporters believe beer and wine commercials — an estimated \$750 million-a-year investment by the brewing industry — help create distorted impressions of drinking and put undue pressure to drink on children and young people. Many broadcasters and advertising executives counter that a ban on such advertising would be a simplistic and ineffective approach to society's growing drinking problem. And alcohol industry leaders claim there is no clear scientific evidence that links advertising with abuse.

The address for Project SMART is P. O. Box 19125, Washington, D.C. 20036.

On eagles' wings

(Continued from page 2)

tors who can be used as instruments in His hands.

The Lord and His work has priority in our lives now. Our crisis was a spiritual awakening. Henry has been ordained a deacon and is Sunday School director in our small Baptist church. I am teaching an adult ladies Sunday School class. We want to share our good news with the world. "God is still performing miracles."

The H. E. Klar family lives in Jackson.

1876 Inn & Restaurant

Completed in 1983

Call Us. It's Free!

1-800-643-3030

At the 1876 Inn you enjoy fine accommodations, dedicated service, an outstanding restaurant and special attention for groups.

- Enjoy our lovely landscaping of spring and summer flowers • Relax in the Jacuzzi whirlpool bath • We are experienced in handling groups • We will make your reservations to the Great Passion Play and other wholesome attractions

The 1876 Inn and Restaurant
Rt. 1, Box 247
Eureka Springs, Arkansas 72632
(501) 253-7183

Check with us for special events throughout the year.

Mississippi Baptist Student Union

Mississippi Baptist Student Union has commissioned 75 students as student missionaries for the 1985 summer and fall semester. Three will serve as summer/semester missionaries.

Mark Ballard will serve as a construction worker in Brazil from July through December, while Mike Franklin and John Herring will serve as youth directors in English-speaking churches in the European Baptist Convention. The other 72 will

be serving as summer missionaries to 33 states, including six who will be serving in Mississippi.

The financial goal for the Mississippi BSU Student Missions Program is \$75,000. These funds will come from contributions by college and university students involved in the 27 local campus organizations of Mississippi BSU.

The 75 students appointed and commissioned at the Leadership Training Conference at Gulfshore Baptist

Assembly on March 30 represent the largest number of students appointed in a given year since the beginning of the program in 1947 when Mississippi BSU teamed with Louisiana to send its first student to an overseas assignment in Hawaii.

This year's group of students come from 18 campuses. The campuses represented by the most student missionaries are Mississippi State University and Mississippi College, with 17 and 13 respectively.



MIKE FRANKLIN
MSU
Germany



JOHN HERRING
MC
Germany



MARK BALLARD
MSU
South Brazil



JONE WHATLEY
MSU
District of Columbia



CONNIE SMITH
MSU
Florida



JACKIE ARD
Co-Lin
Florida



TRINA NICHOLS
MSU
Georgia



ANA HERNANDEZ
Gulf Coast
Georgia



CINDY BURLESON
MC
Georgia



JOY SMITH
Co-Lin
Georgia



CHRIS REMY
Belhaven
Hawaii



KAREN MARDIS
Pearl River
Illinois



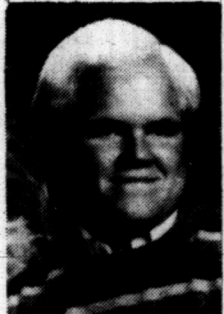
ETHAN McCARTY
Jones
Maryland



DOTTY FOSTER
MSU
Michigan



CLAIRE MIDDLEBROOKS
MUW
Michigan



RANDY WHITE
Blue Mountain
Minnesota/Wisconsin



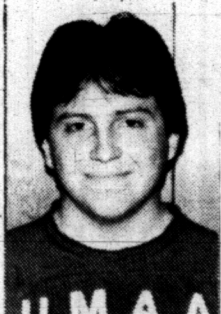
ANNA HAMILTON
MC
Minnesota/Wisconsin



MICHAEL HOOD
Mississippi Delta
Mississippi



MARGIE WEEKS
NWMJC
Mississippi



PHELAN NICHOLS
NWMJC
Mississippi



LISA CAMPBELL
MC
Mississippi



ELIZABETH McFADDEN
MC
New York



KELLY ELMORE
Jones
Northern Plains



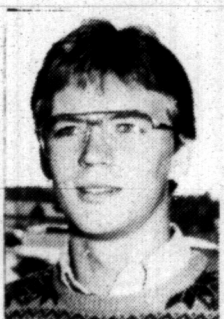
BARRY GRANTHAM
Hinds
Northern Plains



MARGARET WALTHALL
NWMJC
The Northwest



DARLA KLING
Pearl River
The Northwest



DAVID CAVES
Co-Lin
The Northwest



FRANK PORTER
Jones
The Northwest



BETH SARTAIN
MSU
Ohio



DANA INMON
Blue Mountain
Ohio



JUDY BRACKEN
MUW
Pennsylvania



BARBARA COMPERE
MC
Pennsylvania



ANDY THAGGARD
East Central
South Carolina



MISSY STAFFORD
MSU
South Carolina



CHARLIE MAE SMITH
NWMJC
Texas



MARY ELLEN THOMAS
MSU
Utah/Idaho



WINNIE WALMSLEY
Blue Mountain
Virginia



ALLEN BOLAND
NEMJC
Virginia



DEANA RUSHTON
Jones
West Virginia

commissions 75 missionaries



BILLY WINDHAM
USM
Bangladesh



MINDY PARDUE
Blue Mountain
Germany



TERRY STELLA
MC
Israel



PAULA DAUGHETY
MSU
Israel



DENNIS ATWOOD
MC
Morocco



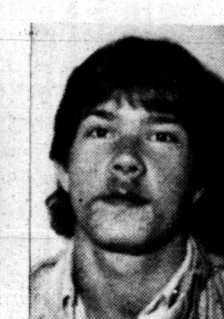
MELANIE CROCKETT
MC
Jordan



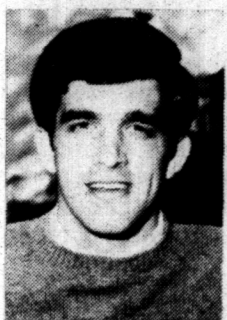
SCOTT VALENTINE
MSU
Taiwan



ANGELA RUSH
Hinds
Alaska



MARK MATHIS
MSU
Zambia



CHARLES EDWARDS
East Central
Alaska



JERRY EUBANKS
NWMJC
Alaska



SONYA JORDAN
Pearl River
Arizona



ANITA CHASTAIN
Itawamba
Arizona



DALE AMASON
MSU
Arizona



JOHNETTE SHERRILL
Blue Mountain
California



DALE TADLOCK
MC
Colorado



TAMMY JACKSON
DSU
Alabama



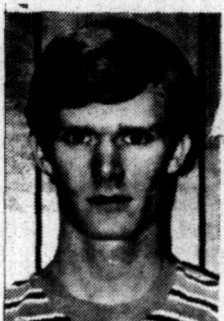
LINDA HALFACRE
MSU
Israel



GAYLIA TOWNSLEY
Belhaven
Illinois



GREG KELLY
Hinds
Indiana



RAY SPROUS
NEMJC
Iowa



EVA MOODY
NEMJC
Iowa



TERRI BURKES
MC
Kansas/Nebraska



TODD WATSON
MC
Kansas/Nebraska



MICHELLE EAVES
MC
Kentucky



KEN HESTER
MSU
Louisiana



ANGIE BOUCHILLON
MSU
Maryland



TERRI WILLOUGHBY
Gulf Coast
Mississippi



LESLEY SHIVERS
Hinds
Mississippi



DARA DELK
MC
Missouri



LISA SMITH
Jones
Missouri



CANDY WALTERS
Jones
Nevada



HOWARD DODSON
MUW
New England



MIKE ODOM
MSU
New England



JEFF SHAW
Blue Mountain
New York



STEPHANIE SUMMERS
MC
New York



Chester Swor, featured speaker at the BSU leader training event at Gulfshore, talks with Karen Hendrick, assistant BSU director at Ole Miss.



From left are the 1985-86 state officers for BSU: Bill Kirkpatrick, PRJC, BSU director advisor; Jandra Barnett, BMC, executive committee; Angela Rush, Hinds, executive committee; Ronny Young, MC, executive committee; Sandi Johnson,

MUW, secretary; Fran Sumrall, USM, vice president; Scott Valentine, MSU, president; William Jenkins, pastor of Yale Street Church, Cleveland, pastor advisor. Not pictured is Jeanette Phillips, Ole Miss, faculty advisor.

In the Rio de la plata, and here

Mississippi partnership makes a difference

By Mary Jane Welch

Mississippi volunteers returning from Uruguay, Paraguay, and Argentina say they'll never be the same again. At least that's what Jean Glaze, former missionary to Argentina, heard while helping coordinate the five-year partnership missions project between Mississippi Baptists and those in the three Latin American countries.

"I see these people come back with such enthusiasm for missions," she said. "So it has certainly been good for the ones who went. And from the response on the field, I think it's been good there, too."

By late 1983, almost halfway into the partnership, Mississippi Baptists had sent 123 volunteers to the three countries. Mississippi volunteers had sung, taught, played basketball, built churches, and more.

Mary and Perry Sanderford, a young couple from Rankin County, kicked off the partnership with a trip to Uruguay and Argentina. Perry helped with carpentry and masonry work, cleared land, and participated in church visitation. In Uruguay, Mary worked with missionary kids during mission meetings.

After they left, Glen Johnson, missionary pastor of a church where Perry helped clear land for a mission chapel, wrote saying the chapel had been completed, services had begun, several had been saved, and Sunday School attendance was thirty-five or more.

The Sanderfords made such an impact on countries they visited that missionary Paul Roaten requested they come back to Uruguay to help outfit a truck as a mobile book store.

Another Mississippi volunteer who will have a lasting impact on Latin America is Arthur Smith, an elec-

tronics engineer from Picayune First Baptist Church. He spent two weeks setting up equipment for a new Baptist communications center in Argentina. Through the center, Baptists can reach hundreds of Argentines they could never reach on a one-on-one basis.

Most Mississippi volunteers have gone as part of larger groups. Thurmon Bryant, the Foreign Mission Board's director for Eastern South America, said that three groups of Mississippi volunteers have especially reinforced the contribution missionaries were already making in the area. All three groups went to Latin America in the spring of 1983.

Twenty Mississippi Baptist women went to the three countries to teach Marjorie Rowden Kelly's book, *The Gifted Woman I Am*. Mrs. Kelly, wife of the executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, coordinated the trip. The women divided into ten teams and taught the book in eighty churches in the three countries.

They got better response than expected. In some churches the men joined the women to learn about the role of women in evangelism and church activity.

"I think it enabled the national women to have a better understanding of the significant role women play in the churches and in evangelistic outreach," said Bryant.

The Mississippi women came home saying the experience had changed them. "People received them beautifully and the ladies came back just raving over the hospitality and the experience they had," said Mrs. Glaze.

A letter from a Latin American pastor and his wife to one of the women who made the trip expressed

some of the feelings that lingered: "We are praying and asking God to give us the means to be able to grow, to develop our gifts and talents . . . One day in the bedroom where you had had a little rest after lunch, there were twenty children and four teachers . . . We remain grateful to you for the message you brought us. We continue to study about gifts."

Likewise, the Singing Churchmen, a group of twenty-four Mississippi musicians, made an impact in the two countries they visited. They arrived in Argentina at a time when the Falklands crisis had caused relationships between the two countries to reach a low ebb. Although that wasn't the purpose of their trip, the group changed many attitudes toward Americans, said Perry Robinson, who coordinated the trip for Mississippi Baptists.

Robinson, minister of music at First Baptist Church, Ellisville, was told that church people did not hold American government actions against their fellow Christians in America, but much anti-American feeling still lingered in the country. After the concerts, which were held in cultural centers as well as in churches, people told the choir that the concert had changed their feelings toward Americans.

One university professor came up after a concert in La Plata with tears in his eyes. He said he had really hated Americans, but the Lord had convicted him during the concert that his feeling was wrong. He asked the Americans' forgiveness, took the insignia of his university off his lapel, and gave it to one of the group members as a goodwill symbol.

The group was also able to open long-closed doors for missionaries in the two countries. When they left Uruguay, missionaries told the singers that Baptists had had more exposure in Uruguay during the week they were there than in the past twenty years, said Robinson. In both countries, at least one concert was taped for national television.

Part of the reason their concerts made such an impact was that the men had learned their songs in Spanish. That extra effort made it possible for their audiences to understand the songs' meanings and impressed the people with the choir's concern for them.

In one concert, which was billed as a cultural rather than a church event, the churchmen sang to an audience of 750 to 800 people who gave them three standing ovations.

"And they just kept wanting us to sing," said Robinson. "We sang, I believe, three encores, and finally we just quit. We were so tired. We'd already been singing for nearly two hours."

"But because of the national exposure on television and in these cultural centers and so forth, they (missionaries) felt like Baptists as a group had been presented to the people of Uruguay as a religious group, more so than at any time in the past," he said.

Robinson, who has also traveled to

Spain and Brazil with the Churchmen, said that he has seen the same thing happen in other countries.

In Brazil, for example, the Churchmen were the first Protestant group to be invited into the Catholic university in Recife. But after they received a "tremendous" response from a standing-room-only crowd of about twelve hundred, the university officials invited the Baptist seminary choir to sing for them.

"I see these people come back with such enthusiasm for missions."

The trip also had an impact on the Singing Churchmen themselves, added Robinson. "We had a meeting about two weeks after we returned, and I think this was expressed by all the guys. I think most of them had a deeper commitment to missions for one thing, and they had a greater appreciation of our missionaries and the work they're doing and trying to do."

Another group that reinforced the work missionaries had been doing in Argentina was the eleven pastors, one layperson, and two pastors' wives who, in early April, held revival services in churches of western Buenos Aires.

When the group set out, they faced several obstacles. A mix-up in the date of their trip put them arriving in Argentina shortly after a weekend revival. Pastors were sure their members wouldn't return for another revival. They were especially sure that people would not come to the church on weeknights after work. Some pastor's wives were so nervous about the visiting "Yankees" that they refused to have them stay in their homes.

Few things happened as the skeptic might have predicted. As the Argentinians got to know the Americans, barriers between them melted. People did come to weekday services, with more coming each day. And more than 180 people came forward making some kind of decision for Christ.

On the last night of services, the churches met together to say goodbye. When an invitation was given, more than thirty young people came forward to say they wanted to follow Jesus wherever he may lead.

Even after the services ended and the Southern Baptists returned to America, church after church told of higher attendance and a continued spirit of decision in every service, said missionary Toby Walker.

Other groups have also made an impact, said Mrs. Glaze. A basketball team of young men from Mississippi were a hit in Paraguay, she said.

The young men played a semipro basketball team who provided a gym free of charge. Although the Mississippi team returned home with a losing record, they left their mark in Paraguay.

With them, they carried cards with their pictures and testimonies. At

half-time they sang Christian choruses and then invited people to come onto the court to talk and get their cards. About seven thousand attended the games and about forty people made professions of faith as a result of the games.

Through these projects Mississippi Baptists reassured missionaries and national Baptists in Uruguay, Paraguay, and Argentina about the contribution volunteers can make and opened the way for using other volunteers in the future, said Thurmon Bryant.

Missionary Roaten was even more positive about the volunteers who came to Uruguay. In some ways, he said, volunteers make a greater impact than missionaries because the people of Uruguay knew they had sacrificed their own time and money to make the trip.

Mary Jane Welch is on the staff of the Foreign Mission Board.

Song leader dies during revival

Odell Snow died on April 6. He was a member of Liberty Church near Noxapater. He was a deacon at Liberty, as well as Sunday School director, and was serving as song director during spring revival, when his death came suddenly.

He had served as song director in churches across Winston County and on various associational committees.

Ben McDaniel, pastor, and the deacons of Liberty Church have adopted a resolution in Snow's memory, which states in part: "Liberty community and Winston County have lost a most loyal friend, whose God-given talent for singing Christian music, and whose willingness to sing whenever his services were needed, will be forever missed; whose highest ambition in life was to serve his fellowmen with that friendly and warm-hearted spirit of love which was so characteristic of his life."

Devotional Seek ye first

By Donnie L. Stewart
Matthew 6:19-34

We hear almost every day words like "putting first things first" or setting our priorities." It would seem that the ones who get ahead in life are those who get their priorities in order and keep them there.



Stewart

Jesus said in Matthew 6:33, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God . . . and all these things shall be added unto you." Seeking the Kingdom of God ought always to be the believer's priority. It simply means putting first things first. It follows that if God is first, then everything else is at least second. Loyalty to Christ and obedience to his commands takes precedence over everything and everyone.

Simply put, no two things can be first. "You cannot serve God and mammon," said our Lord. He didn't say it was difficult or that one had to be careful in order to do it. He said it cannot be done. If anything else is first, then we chose to make him at least second. This our Lord will not tolerate.

The Christian who honestly seeks first the Kingdom of God will refuse to be enslaved by other claims. This approach to life must affect our standard of living. He (the Christian) will never be owned by his possessions. It also means he will not be dominated by worry, which shows lack of faith.

"Seeking first" is an endeavor that will literally consume your life. The believer's mission is to share our Lord's mission. His was to "seek and to save the lost."

This command calls for Christ's followers to relate to all material things in a Christ-like way. It calls for serving one Master. It requires complete submission to the Lordship of our Christ.

Stewart is pastor, First, Holly Springs.



Mississippi Valley
Gas Company

Gas gives you more for your money.

Pews, pulpits, baptistries,
stained glass, carpet,
steeples, chairs,
tables, lighting,
folding doors

Van Winkle
Church
Furnishings &
Pew Upholstery

Box 501, Fulton, MS. 38843
In MS. Toll Free 1-800-624-9627
Design—Construction Management

We Remodel & Paint

Faces And Places

by anne washburn mc williams

"God had a design"

At Greenville, Mississippi, in the late 50s, a couple joined the Airport Baptist Church. Until then, both had been members of other denominations. "I really became interested in studying the Bible. I began to understand that God had a design for my life," he remembers.

Jimmy Allen has served on "protection details" for Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, the Shah of Iran, Indira Gandhi, and the royal family of England, plus a lot of other famous folk. He has baptized converts in the Black Sea, preached in Turkey and England, and traveled all over the world as a special government agent.

My curiosity kept giving me a prod until one cold January, sleet-filled day I drove to Goodman to ask, "How did you happen to go into the ministry? What route led you to the pastorate of Main Street, Goodman, and the BSU directorship of Holmes Junior College?"

He is tall and broad-shouldered. He has a certain reserve that soon melts into warmth. He's a great storyteller; so I listened.

He was born James Stevens Allen in Coffeetown, but grew up in Amory. "I always wanted to be a policeman. When I played cops and robbers as a boy, I was always the cop. I got my first commission in 1943, when Governor Paul Johnson assigned me to the Mississippi School Boys' Safety Patrol."

Later, on entering the Air Force, naturally he chose the MP Corps. June 27, 1950, when the Korean War broke out, he was stationed in Japan. "My second language is Japanese."

He fought in Korea. "I went through that war not a Christian." He was wounded, though not seriously, but he adds, was "left with emotional scars that will never heal."

At the time of his discharge in 1952, his parents were living in Water Valley. He got a job there as a policeman, studied a bit at Ole Miss, and met and married Alice Fay Vaughn.

His father was rather old when Jimmy was born. Though a wide gap separated their ages, the two were close friends. "I called him Daddy Boy. Our house had no locks (doors were fastened from the inside). When I'd arrive home at night, sometimes late, I'd tap on Dad's bedroom window. He would get up and unfasten the door."

When Jimmy came home from the Korean war, his father said to him, "You see this big red X on my calendar? That night I heard you rap on the window. I went to the door, but you were not there. I went back to bed and heard you rap again. I looked out the door, but saw no sign of you, so I told your mother, 'Our boy is in some kind of trouble. He needs us to pray for him.' We prayed all the rest of the night."

The X marked the day Jimmy had been wounded. The account of the in-

cident impressed him, but not enough to make him change his ways. Then a 17-year-old boy witnessed to him, and really got his attention. "The Lord had a ready entrance to my heart." The third Sunday of November, 1953, he visited with a minister and made a profession of faith. The next year he re-entered the Air Force.

He and his wife tried her church, and then tried his, but were happy in neither, he said. In San Antonio, they began to visit a Baptist church. "We realized we were hearing the gospel message in a way we had not heard it before." About that time a special assignment sent him to Greenville, as investigator for a federal government agency. He and Alice moved with their two sons, Marc Stevens and William Boyd.

They joined the Airport Church. "I realized soon that God was calling me into the ministry." Airport licensed him to preach in 1958. It would not be an easy decision to give up his job and go to seminary. "We were both spiritually immature." So he chose to stay in the Air Force, and was sent to Washington, and to Turkey, still as a special agent.

Though he had said 'no' to entering seminary just then, he found that the Lord didn't take a 'no' on the preaching assignment. In Turkey, he soon found himself preaching—in a Moslem land where few Christians have such a chance to preach.

His station commander was trying to get a daily Bible study going on the base. Allen offered to lead it, and to preach Sundays. The Catholics had mass at nine, so Allen said, "I'll preach at 11"—and told the commander, "I'll see you there." And the commander obeyed. "He might have been drunk on Saturday nights, but he came to preaching on Sunday."

Chapel was in a quonset hut—unmarked, because of Moslem citizens' forbidding any cross or other sign of outward identification.

With at least 500 men on this station in eastern Turkey, but no Protestant chaplain, Allen conducted moral guidance lectures, counseled men, and delivered death messages. He had surrendered to the ministry—and now found himself in it. As Bruce Larson wrote, "On God's agenda, everything that happens to us can have purpose."

Not having studied preaching, he preached (to men of many denominations) the way he'd heard Baptists preach—on stewardship and missions. They used victrola records to accompany the singing. Next he served the Lord's Supper. "That was a mistake," he said, for the Catholic priest protested, "Oh, no! He's not even ordained!" This sort of got a big stew started about his Baptist sermons and services, but he determined, "I will keep on preaching. It may not be here on the base, but I will preach somewhere else if I can't preach here. I won't stop."

Some converts came; he was ready to baptize them.



Jimmy Allen greets a caller.

In Turkey, he said, the nationals could claim any property of foreigners by simply saying, "It is mine." As Allen was getting into a car to drive to the baptismal service in the Black Sea, a couple of Turks walked up and said, "I want to ride with you in MY car," so he had to invite them to come along. He thought they might oppose the baptism and try to prevent it, but they stayed for the service, heard a Christian witness, and did not protest.

"I wrote letters for the baptismal candidates to give to churches in the States later, saying that they had been baptized."

From Turkey, he returned to Washington in 1961; he and Alice lived there until 1968.

"I still wanted that little gold badge of authority, and didn't want to give it up. But God is willing to wait for us. . . ."

(Continued next week)

Only an 'act of God' can help SBC, says Winfred Moore

By Mike Duduit

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Although he would like to see "some type of breakthrough" which allow the Southern Baptist Convention to meet in Dallas this June "with some type of harmony," Winfred Moore believes only "an act of God" will make that possible.

Moore, pastor of First Baptist Church, Amarillo, Texas, and president of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, was interviewed about current denominational issues following an address at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary's Denominational Heritage Week.

During the interview, he expressed concern about the current denominational crisis in the SBC and hopes for re-uniting the convention.

The Texas pastor is concerned that Southern Baptists are being diverted from their primary calling of missions and evangelism.

"Frankly, I'm really sick that it has gotten to this place," Moore said. "We are spending more time with this controversy than with the Great Commission. It bothers me greatly, but it didn't bother me soon enough."

Moore believes that trust, not belief about the Bible, is at the heart of the current unrest within the denomination.

"What bothers me is that we have reached the place where there is no

trust, and I honestly believe that the thing our people out there want more than anything is to be able to trust the motives of the pastors and the other people who are leading this convention."

Moore, who has been pastor of the Amarillo church 25 years and currently is on the Baylor University board of trustees, believes accusations of liberalism have been misdirected against many Southern Baptist professors and other denominational leaders.

"To me, it's not an issue of the Bible," he explained. "I don't agree with everything the dearest friends I have believe, but it never occurred to me (that they) disbelieved the Bible or don't believe it is God's inspired word. It doesn't bother me that I don't agree with what somebody else thinks. I don't even agree with some of the things I thought 10 years ago."

Since his name has been mentioned as a possible nominee as convention president in Dallas, some have accused him of being a liberal as well — much to Moore's astonishment.

"I've been called just a little to the right of the Ayatollah. I'm so conservative I thought Barry Goldwater was a liberal. But all of a sudden I've become not just a moderate but a liberal."

Roberts dies

(Continued from page 3)
Bell, the Mississippi Ministerial Association, and the American Choral Director's Association.

He was a former vice president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Mary Roberts; daughters, Mrs. Pat Roberts Bean of Atlanta, Ga., and Miss Stephanie Roberts of Starkville; father, G. W. Roberts of Baldwin; two sisters; and two brothers.

Memorials may be made to the Church Music Ministry of the First Baptist Church, in Starkville.

First quarter gifts are up

(Continued from page 3)
seminaries, and nearly 7,000 home and foreign missionaries.

March gifts in Mississippi totaled \$1,110,657, a 15.6 percent drop from March of 1984.

The total for the first three months is \$180,601 under the pro rata budget. The pro rata budget is the amount needed each month on the average to reach the year's goal. This year's goal is \$17,500,000. To make the pro rata budget, the gifts would have been \$4,375,000.

My strength is as the strength of ten, because my heart is pure — Galahad

Moore insists he has made no commitments about being nominated as an alternative to current convention president Charles Stanley (pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta) when the convention meets in Dallas.

"Nobody has asked me. I have made no decisions. I haven't really been called on yet," the Texas pastor said.

The Amarillo pastor expressed hope the convention will find a way to reconciliation and trust.

"I love my denomination. I am greatly in debt to it. It grieves me, not that we disagree — we've always disagreed — but that we have reached the place in our disagreement that there is such bitterness."

Duduit writes for Southern Seminary.

BAPTISTRIES
HEATERS. PUMPS
FACTORY DIRECT
TOLL FREE 1-800-251-0679
TN CALL COLLECT 615-875-0679
FIBERGLASS BAPTISTRY CO
3511 HIXSON PIKE • CHATTANOOGA, TN 37415

OLD BIBLES REBOUND
A price, binding and style to meet every need. Quality workmanship guaranteed. Write for illustrated price folder.
"Internationally known specialists"
NORRIS BOOKBINDING CO.
Box 305-C — Greenwood, Miss. 38930

Forest Hill kicks off SS enlargement campaign

In cooperation with Hinds-Madison Association's effort to increase Sunday School enrollment, Forest Hill Church, Jackson, will conduct a week-long enlargement campaign April 13-21.

The week's activities will begin with a soup and salad supper on Saturday, April 13. Don Q. Wilson, who will be the guest director for the campaign, will be present then and throughout the week speaking, making recommendations and conducting training sessions. He is minister of education at First Church Amory.

On Sunday, April 14, following the morning worship service and a brown

bag lunch, a "Blitz" committee consisting of 70 church members will survey a designated area of the community for the purpose of locating Sunday school prospects.

Wilson will conduct training sessions each night through Wednesday, using material from the book *Growing and Winning Through the Sunday School*.

Visitation will be the main emphasis for the remainder of the week and attempt will be made to visit each new enrollee or prospect located during the blitz. The campaign will culminate on April 21 — **Super Sunday!**

Corinth honors Causey on 15th anniversary

First Church, Corinth, held a celebration day March 17, honoring Pastor and Mrs. John M. Causey for their 15 years of ministry to the church and community.

The celebration began with the proclamation of appreciation read by the chairman of deacons, Taft Little, during the morning service.

"Since 1970," the document said, in part, "the Causeys have consistently led this congregation in the proclamation of the gospel, teaching of the Bible, and mission support and involvement. As they have ministered in Jesus' name, hundreds of people have been touched here in this community and as far away as Argentina."

"We thank our God upon every remembrance of Bro. John and Imogene because of their participation in the ministry of First Baptist Church from the first day until now."

Guest speaker was Earl Kelly, ex-

ecutive secretary-treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

At noon, members of the Causey family and other invited guests joined the honorees for luncheon. A reception at the church-owned "Rubel House" followed.

The day's activities ended with the evening worship service. Music and testimonies combined to make that service a "Celebration of Remembrance and Commitment."

Members of the celebration committee were Betty Bumpas, Barbara Curlee, Doris Davis, Nat Mayhall, Larry Reid, and Harold Savell. Church staff members include Terry Garvin, associate pastor and minister of education; Mike Crook, minister of music and youth; Joy Whitehead, church/pastor's secretary; Martha Dull, financial/educational secretary; Jean Anderson, organist; and Emma McKinney, pianist.



Left to right are Dot Mayhall, Imogene Causey, John Causey, pastor of First Church, Corinth; and Nat Mayhall, director of missions, Alcorn Association. The four were present at the reception held to honor the Causeys. (Photo by Judy Coleman)

Staff Changes

Curtis A. Burge has resigned as pastor of North Jackson Church, Jackson, and is available for pulpit supply and interim pastorates. His address is Box 258, Clinton, Miss. 39056, and his telephone number is 924-1038.

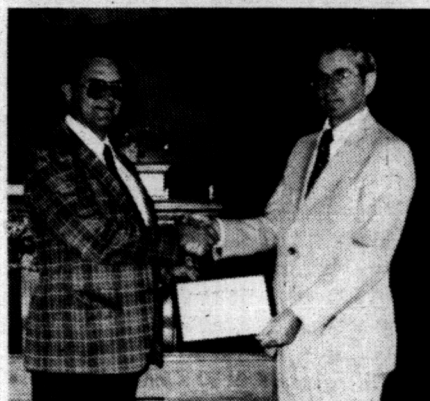
Gum Grove, Lincoln Association has called Thomas Wicker as pastor. Thomas, Ruby and their four children moved into the parsonage April 9, from Bethel, Chickasaw Association.



Harmon Town Church, Como, recently elected and ordained four deacons. They are, left to right, Robert Stubbs, T. C. Johnston, Paul Crawford, and Ben Key.

Names in the News

Ozelle Sullivan, 74, died March 22 at Hardy-Wilson Memorial Hospital, Hazlehurst. He was the father of Mrs. Audrey Thomas of Brandon, who is employed with Computer Services in the Baptist Building. Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. on Mar. 24 at Damascus Baptist Church, Copiah County. A native of Simpson County, Sullivan was a member of Damascus Church.



Ralph Cain, left, was licensed to preach by Bethel Church, Chickasaw Association, March 17. Thomas Wicker, right, pastor, Bethel Church, presented certificate. Cain plans to attend New Orleans Seminary in June, 1985 and is available for supply or pastorate. He can be reached by writing Route 1, Woodland, Miss., 39776 or by phone 456-5951.

Walter C. Lee of Madison, died March 26, at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center. Services were held March 27 at First Baptist Church, Madison. He was born Nov. 30, 1911, in Scott County, and moved to Madison County in 1947. He was a member of First Church, Madison, a member of the senior men's Sunday School class and a deacon. He was a farm manager for Stribling Farms, Mansdale, for several years and a road foreman for Madison County Supervisors for 20 years before retirement.

Northminster will offer perspective on controversy

Samuel Hill, visiting professor at Millsaps College, will speak in two Sunday evening sessions at Northminster Church, Jackson. On April 14 he will speak on the topic, "What is Fundamentalism?" On April 21 he will address the subject, "Southern Baptists: Pilgrimage and Perspective."

Both meetings will begin at 6 p.m. and will be in the church's Adult Building.

Hill, a scholar on Southern church history, is an Episcopalian and a former Baptist. John Thomason, Northminster pastor, states that the public is invited.

Perry Association calls Ollie Bryant

Ollie Bryant, 62, is the new director of missions for Perry Association. A graduate of Clarke College and Mississippi College, he also studied at New Orleans Seminary. Born in Louisiana, he grew up in Mississippi.

Bryant has been pastor of several churches, including Galilee, Zachary; Center Point, Jonestown; Eden, Denham Springs; First, Carencrow, all in Louisiana. He had retired from the ministry three years ago and since then had worked in radio ministry on a local and international level.

He and his wife, Ethel, have moved to New Augusta.

Off the Record

The owner of a small crossroads store was appointed postmaster. Six months went by and not one piece of mail had left town. Deeply concerned, postal authorities in Washington wrote to the postmaster to inquire.

"It's simple," he wrote back, "the bag ain't full yet."

Revival

First Church, Macon: April 14 to 17; O. E. Mims, pastor, First Church, Cleveland, Tenn., evangelist; Larry Corder, pastor of Calvary Church, Macon, music director; services at noon and at 7 p.m.

Cross Roads (Choctaw): April 14 to 17; Paul Hill, pastor, French Camp Church, French Camp, evangelist; Hubert Smith, Fellowship Church, Mathiston, music director; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; weekday services, 7 p.m.; H. L. Redd, pastor.

Pine Grove (Simpson): April 14-19; 7 nightly; Harold Gartman, pastor, Oak Grove, Mendenhall, guest speaker; Douglas Hogg, pastor.

Harmony (Union): April 14-19; Ray Glover, evangelist; David Robbins, music evangelist; 7:30 nightly; Robert L. Daniel, pastor.

Antioch (Rankin): April 14-17; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Jerry File, Jackson, evangelist; Joe McGraw, music director; Martin Williams, pastor.

Biggersville, Biggersville: April 21-26; 7 nightly; Bill Mason, pastor, Doty's Chapel, Shannon, evangelist; Truman Stockdale, minister of music, Biggersville Church, leading singing; Raybon Richardson, pastor.

Oakland Church, Corinth: April 21-26; 7 nightly; Randy Isbell, pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church, Savannah, Tenn., preaching; Tony Wilkerson, minister of music, Oakland Church, leading singing; Randy Bostick, pastor.

Indian Springs, Hattiesburg: April 14-17; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 6:45 p.m.; weekday services, 7:30 p.m.; Tom Smith, pastor, Community Church, Alexandria, La., guest speaker; Lynn Holderfield, music; Terry White, pastor.

Lizana, Gulfport: April 14-17; Charles Rodgers, Bel Aire, Gulfport, evangelist; Brian Pannell, Pass Road, Gulfport, leading music; services 11 a.m. Sunday and 7 p.m., nightly. Gerald H. Walker, pastor.

First, Corinth: April 14-17; services at 7 p.m. Sun.-Wed. and at noon Mon.-Wed.; Paul Brooks, First Church, Marianna, Fla., evangelist; Mike Crook, minister of music and youth at First, Corinth, leading singing; John Causey, pastor.

Walker Hill, Brandon: April 14-17; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; weekday services, 7:30 nightly; Ricky Gray, pastor of Hillsboro, and formerly pastor of Cato, Rankin County, evangelist; Susan Clark, Oakdale, music evangelist; Denise Riley, Sunrise, organist; Bernard Nail, pastor.

Antioch (Alcorn): April 21-26; David Grisham, pastor, Hinkle Church (Alcorn), preaching; Dan Emerson, pastor.

Glade Church, Laurel: April 21-26; Roy Myers, evangelist; Don Boone, music evangelist; Charles Davis, pastor.

Lawn Haven, Laurel: April 21-24, 7 p.m.; Dwight Smith, pastor, West Ellisville, evangelist; Evon Ingram, pastor.

First, New Albany: April 21-25; regular services Sunday; Mon.-Thurs., 12 noon-12:30 p.m.; 7 each night; Garland McKee, pastor, First, Pearland, Texas, evangelist; Bill Grisham, Casa View Church, Dallas, music director; Tom Sumrall, pastor.

CHURCH FURNITURE
For Quality and Low Prices
Wallace Foy
171 Westover Dr.
Clarksdale, MS 38614
601-624-8928

NEW AND USED

WORLD'S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF FIBERGLASS CHURCH PRODUCTS

- STEEPLES • WALL CROSSES
- STAINED FIBERGLASS WINDOWS
- BAPTISTRIES
- BAPTISTRY HEATERS

1-800-527-1488
Write for free color brochure

Fiberglass Specialties

In Texas (214) 857-8522 Box 210 Henderson, Texas 75652

Ministers' wives luncheon will take place June 11

The Southern Baptist Ministers' Wives Luncheon will take place June 11 at 12:15 p.m. at the Regency Room of the Fairmont Hotel in Dallas. This is during SBC week in Dallas.

Cynthia Clawson will present a musical theme interpretation of spiritual gifts.

Tickets are available for \$12.50 from Martha Garrison, 432 NW 17th, Oklahoma City, Okla., 73103. Along with the check, include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Tickets will be \$15 at the door.

Marjorie Kelly, wife of Earl Kelly, executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, is president of the ministers' wives group.

- Just for the Record -



Bolivar Association sponsored their annual Baptist Men/Boys Run-a-Thon, Saturday, March 9, at Morrison Chapel. This year's invitation included the ladies and the girls. There were 57 registered participants from 10 churches. Aluminum can collection contest resulted in raising \$61.00. Net proceeds of \$232.00 will go to World Hunger through the Foreign Mission Board.



Oakvale Church (Lawrence) broke ground for a new building March 31. Members of the building committee shown are: Carroll Turnage, John Daniel, Mildred Barnes, Dianne Bourne, and Delores Jones, David Dewease, (left) pastor. In addition, it was High Attendance Sunday, the 140 attending SS was the highest in the history of the church, while 82 were present for CT. The offering of over \$6,500 went to the building fund.

Mississippi Baptist activities

- April 12 Young Musicians' Adjudication; Oak Forest BC, Jackson; 7-9:30 p.m. (CM)
- April 12-13 GA Mother/Daughter Weekend (Grades 1-3) 4 p.m., 12th-1 p.m., 13th (WMU)
- April 13 State Young Musicians' Festival; Mississippi College, Clinton; 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (CM)
Key Leadership Seminar for Bi-Vocational Pastors; Baptist Building; 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (SS)
- April 15 State Bible Drill; 3-4:30 p.m.; FBC, Tupelo/FBC, Gulfport (CT)
- April 15-16 State Secretaries Conference; Camp Garaywa; 1 p.m., 15th-4 p.m., 16th (CAPM)
- April 16 State Bible Drill; 3-4:30 p.m.; FBC, Kosciusko/FBC, Laurel (CT)
- April 18 State Bible Drill; 3-4:30 p.m.; FBC, Natchez/Clarksdale BC, Clarksdale (CT)
- April 19 State Bible Drill; 3-4:30 p.m.; FBC, Greenville/FBC, Brookhaven (CT)
- April 19-20 Language Missions Leadership Conference; Baptist Indian Center, Philadelphia; Noon, 19th-Noon, 20th (CoMi)
- April 20 State Bible Drill; 3-4:30 p.m.; FBC, Brandon/Broadmoor BC, Jackson (CT)



Ag Missions Fellowship elects officers

The newly-formed Mississippi Baptist Agricultural Missions Fellowship elected officers at their first meeting during the recent Baptist Men's Conference in Jackson. From left they are Bobby Redding, projects coordinator, Clinton; Jimmy Webb, coordinator for area five, Florence; Malcolm Broome, area eight, Hattiesburg; Wiley Ainsworth, area seven, Magee; Mac Huddleston, area four, Starkville; Don Blasingame, president, Starkville; John Carr, vice president, Valley Park; and Fred McCrory, secretary, Brandon. Area coordinators not pictured are Tom Blythe, area one, Senatobia; Don Waller, area two, Oxford; James Smith, area three, Hollandale; W. L. Compere, area six, Newton; and Monte Moncrief, area nine, Pascagoula.

Preaching and worship meets planned for three dates

Three Better Biblical Preaching and Worship Conferences are to be held in three locations in Mississippi, May 13, 15, and 16.

The conferences are designed and sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department to provide pastors and ministers of music helps in preparing sermons and in improving worship opportunities for congregations.

Locations of the conferences will be Harrisburg Church, Tupelo, May 13; Central Church, McComb, May 15; and Morrison Heights Church, Clin-

ton, May 16.

Each session will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Leaders for the programs will be James Barry, consultant in the Church Administration Department of the Baptist Sunday School Board; Dan Hall, director of the Church Music Department, MBCB; and Julius Thompson, director of the sponsoring department.

There is no cost for the conference, however, those planning to attend should pre-register with Thompson's office at Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, phone 968-3800.

Southwestern Seminary trustees approve near \$17 million budget

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — Trustees of Southwestern Seminary, here, unanimously approved a budget of almost \$17 million at their spring meeting March 18-20.

The 32-member board also dealt with recommendations on faculty and curriculum.

The budget — \$16,977,499 for the 1985-86 academic year — represents a 4.3 percent increase over the approximately \$16.3 million spending blueprint approved last year.

The board okayed the creation of two professorships, the addition of a faculty in the school of music, and the addition of seven courses in the school of theology.

Trustees approved the permanently endowed Laneville-Hooten Professorship of Old Testament, established with a gift from the estates of deceased sisters Winnie Laneville and Ayleen Hooten of Fort Worth. David Garland, professor of Old Testament, was elected to the chair.

Also approved was the Huber L. Drumwright Professorship of New Testament. Drumwright, who died in November 1981, was a professor of New Testament at Southwestern and was dean of the school of theology,

1973-80. At his death he was executive secretary of the Arkansas Baptist Convention. Virtus E. Gideon, professor of New Testament, will fill the professorship.

'Heart' recipient is Southern Baptist

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (BP) — Murray P. Haydon, the world's third recipient of a permanent artificial heart, has ties to two Southern Baptist congregations. Haydon and his wife, Juanita, attend Beechwood Baptist Church, where prayers were offered in Sunday school and the morning service.

Parishioners at nearby Clifton Baptist Church also were praying for Haydon. His daughter, Anita, was active there for a number of years before accepting mission work in California.

Clifton Church's pastor, Robert O. Williams, told the congregation the Jarvik-7 artificial heart is an ecumenical device. Williams quoted heart implant doctor William C. DeVries as saying he has implanted the device in a Mormon (Barney Clark) and a Catholic (William Schroeder) and now he was happy to implant one in a Baptist.

Hollywood gives award to ACTS

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — The ACTS network has won its first award, for "excellence in religious programming," from a group of Hollywood actors, directors, and producers which, for the first time, honored a Christian network.

The Southern California Motion Picture Council, represented by David Soul, star of TV's "Starsky and Hutch," presented its Golden Halo Award to Jimmy R. Allen, president of the Southern Baptist TV network. The group, which is committed to raising the standards of decency in the entertainment industry, has given similar awards to Gregory Peck, Robert Stack, and Haing Ngor, star of the movie, "The Killing Fields."

Patterson Porch

(Continued from page 4)

practice, generally speaking, tithing into the storehouse, thereby giving through the Cooperative Program.

"The new building is one of our special needs. The cost of building was \$40 a square foot. Mississippi WMU chose to provide both building and furnishings for an area 15 x 72. The money we ladies use for times like this is money we would have used for a magazine subscription, an extra pair of shoes, or money we earned by using our crafting abilities, or in many, many cases, money we would have left in a bank account."

Persons who wish to send gifts (memorial or other) for this cause may send them to Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, P. O. Box C-10, Birmingham, AL 35283-0010.

(This article was compiled by Anne McWilliams, using information from a script written by Wilda Fancher, concerning the porch.)

CLASSIFIED

RATE: 50¢ per word \$5.00 minimum. Cash with order except on contract advertising. Include name, address, zip code and phone number in word count. No third ads.

CHURCH PEW CUSHIONS: Manufactured in our plant. For free estimate contact — Emmons Brothers, P. O. Box 186, Meridian, Miss. 39301. Since 1899. Phone (601) 693-4451.

GROUPS OF 12 OR MORE: Famous GREAT PASSION PLAY package includes \$7.50 tickets, lodging, swimming, and meals at Keller's Country Dorm Resort; Eureka Springs, Arkansas for just \$20 each! Call 501/253-8418 today!

JACKSON CHURCH near downtown area has **RENT-FREE HOUSE** available for responsible individual or couple to share in security duties on evenings and weekends. Write Box 2749, Jackson, MS 39207.

Baptist Record

- Uniform: *Acknowledged as Lord*
- Life and Work: *A future for failures*
- Bible Book: *Characteristics of Jesus' disciples*

Characteristics of Jesus' disciples

By Bill R. Baker
Luke 14:7-35

The character of Christ determines the characteristics of his disciples since they have been made partakers of his divine nature. Seven of these characteristics are set forth in Luke 14.

Good Manners (vs. 7-12). There is never any excuse for the follower of him who is love and kindness to act in a rude or crude manner. He should not become obnoxious by demanding the chief place (v. 7) but rather should walk humbly before God and man (v. 11). Such tenderness should never be mistaken for weakness in the life of a Christian.

Inclusive (vs. 12-14). One of the great changes accompanying the new birth is the replacement of an exclusive nature with an inclusive nature. Jesus Christ is for all people; therefore, no one should be excluded by his disciples.

Unquestionably loyalty (v. 26). The word "hate" is a poor translation in this verse. It appears that the concept

to be communicated is this: "one cannot be my disciple if he does not love me more than he loves his father, mother, wife, children, etc." The disciple of Christ has settled the questions regarding what is first and who is first.

Death to self (v. 27). Since the cross speaks of death, one must interpret this statement in light of that fact. Paul said, "I die daily," and, "it is no longer I who live, but Christ." The disciple of Christ is alive to the will and purposes of God and has put to death his own desires where there is conflict between himself and his Lord.

Creative and constructive (v. 28). It is tragic that the world tries to identify the Christian in terms of what he opposes rather than by what he proposes. Jesus speaks of building a tower which should indicate a disciple's characteristic, that is, to build. He is involved in building better persons and better places and in order to do this, he pays a high cost.

Courage (v. 31). When speaking of

discipleship Jesus refers to a king going out to make war. Obviously, the Christian disciple must understand that the name he bears will bring reproach and opposition. Paul said, "I have fought a good fight." The disciple is engaged in warfare.

Absolute surrender (v. 32). The disciple surrenders himself and his substance at the feet of his Lord. Just as the hymn states, "All to Jesus I surrender, all to him I freely give."

Without the presence of these seven characteristics, the Christian is like salt that has lost its savor and is unfit. The Christian is now brought face to face with questions he can no longer ignore: Am I practicing good manners? Am I inclusive or exclusive? Am I loyal? Is there some area where I need to die to self? Am I constructive or destructive? Am I putting my best effort into the battle? Is there anything in my life that is not totally surrendered to Jesus Christ?

Baker is pastor, First, Clinton.

Acknowledged as Lord

By W. Levon Moore
John 20:26-28; 21:15-22; 20:31

The disciples not only needed proof of Jesus' physical resurrection from the dead, they needed assurance that he was the divine Son of God. On the basis of this assurance, they were able to acknowledge his Lordship.

The scripture passages under consideration allow us to see how his disciples came to the recognition of his divine Lordship.

I. Confirmation (20:19-23)

Although this scripture is not a part of our focal printed passage, it is essential to our understanding of the entire message on acknowledging Christ as Lord.

The first appearance of Jesus to his disciples as a group came on the evening of that first resurrection day. The group feared the Jews, and sought safety in the Upper Room. Behind closed doors they discussed the events of the past few days, especially the reports that Jesus had been seen alive.

Even though they had received the word of witnesses, their faith in the fact that he was alive was not fully affirmed until Jesus made a personal appearance to them. While they talked, suddenly Jesus stood in their midst and pronounced peace upon them. As if to verify his true identity in case any doubt should remain, Jesus showed them his hands and his side. Again, he gave them the blessing of his peace, then issued his command, "As the Father hath sent me, even so send I you" (John 20:21).

As if these blessings and commands were not enough, Jesus breathed upon them a promise, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit: Whose soever sins ye forgive, they are forgiven unto them; whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained" (John 20:22-23). In this first appearance, their belief that Jesus was alive was established. Furthermore, the living Christ confirmed in their minds the fact that their mission in the world was to continue the work which he had begun. He led them to see that the Power of the Holy Spirit was the agency for accomplishing that divinely given mission.

II. Conviction (20:24-29)

Thomas was not present when the

first appearance was made to the group of disciples. When they declared, "We have seen the Lord," he expressed grave doubts about what they claimed to have seen. He demanded visible proof, including the print of the nails in Jesus' hands and the open wound in Jesus' side.

Eight days after the first appearance, Jesus came again to the group meeting behind closed doors. Thomas was present on this occasion. After his blessing of peace, Jesus turned immediately to Thomas and said, "Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side; and be not faithless, but believing" (20:27). All the evidence which Thomas had required — and much more — had been given to him. Convicted that Jesus was indeed alive, and further that he was the divine Son of God, Thomas said to Jesus, "My Lord and My God" (John 20:28).

III. Commitment (21:15-22; 20:31)

The acknowledgement of Christ's Lordship would not be possible apart from one's deep commitment to Christ in the spirit of love. Lordship must have a basis stronger than admiration, friendship, or human loyalty. It must find its foundation in love.

In a post-resurrection appearance to the disciples at the sea of Tiberias, Jesus drew Simon Peter aside and confronted him with questions about his love. Jesus asked for an expression of, and commitment to, the highest kind of love. Because Peter had formerly denied his Lord, he was now more restrained in his commitment; yet he declared, "Lord, thou knowest that I love thee" (21:15-17). The recognition of Christ's Lordship and the commitment of love to him entitled Peter to one of life's greatest privileges — the feeding of the Master's sheep. Have you acknowledged him as the Lord of your Life?

Moore is director of missions, Attala County.

A future for failures

By James F. Yates
John 18:25-27; 21:15-19

The denial of Peter (18:25-27)

When the other disciples forsook Jesus and fled, Peter refused to do so. He followed Jesus, even after his arrest because he could not tear himself away. Since we already know from 13:38 of Jesus' prediction that Peter would deny him three times, the suspense has mounted since 18:17-18 where the scene suddenly shifted after Peter had issued only one denial. Now, against the backdrop of Jesus' courage, we return to Simon Peter as he warmed himself by the fire.

As Peter stood there, those about the fire asked him, "You are not also one of his disciples, are you?" (v. 25a) As in the first instance (v. 17), the form of the question invited a negative answer. The devil was making it easy for Peter to deny Jesus. And he took the bait, with his second denial being a little stronger than the first. For "he denied it," and said, "I am not" (v. 25b).

Finally one of the servants of the high priest and a kinsman of Malchus asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" (v. 26) The form of this question invited an affirmative reply. This question was getting too close to home for Peter. The implication is that this man was certain he had seen Peter, maybe remembered that it was he who had tried to kill Malchus. Peter could see himself being arrested for attempted murder, or even worse, for resisting the officers. Thus, for the third time, he denied Jesus and immediately the cock crew (v. 27).

When the crisis came, Peter was so overcome by fear that he denied three times he was even acquainted with Jesus. Later Peter had wept bitterly

over his conduct. He, above all of the others who had run away, needed assurance of restoration. It was given to him at the appearance of the Lord by the sea.

The commissioning of Peter (21:15-19)

After breakfast and apparently in the presence of the other disciples, Jesus initiated a question and answer dialogue with Peter. Woven into it was his commission to Peter for the work which ultimately would lead to Peter's martyrdom. The dialogue consisted of three questions from Jesus, three responses from Peter, and three words of commission from Jesus. Two different words are used for love; two different words are used for sheep; two different words are used for caring for the sheep.

Sitting around after breakfast, suddenly Jesus addressed Simon Peter with a question, "Simon, son of Jonas, do you love me more than these?" (21:15) To what does "these" refer? There are three possible meanings: (1) Do you love me more than you love these fishing nets and boat? (2) Do you love me more than you love these other disciples? (3) Do you love me more than these other disciples love me? The weight of evidence seems to favor the last of these suggestions.

It is evident that Peter was subdued. In his question, Jesus had used the word for the highest kind of love (agapao), the love akin to God's love. Peter omitted any response to the "more than these" and instead simply replied, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you," using the word which expresses the love of a friend (phileo). Jesus replied, "Feed my lambs."

Jesus' second question was the same as the first except that he dropped the "more than these" part and asked, "Do you love me?" He still used agapao, and Peter responded with phileo, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus' words of commission changed to, "Tend my sheep."

Jesus' third question was the same as his second one, except that he changed verbs. "Do you love me?" He used phileo, changing to Peter's word. For every time that Peter had said, "I do not know him," Jesus had asked, "Do you love me?" And Peter's answer was more emphatic than the first two. "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." And Jesus' response was, "Feed my sheep."

At this point Peter was grieved. Why? Remember that twice Jesus asked Peter if he loved him with the highest kind of love. Twice Peter said that he loved Jesus as a friend, or with a lower kind of love. Then Jesus asked him if he loved him as a friend. When Peter twice failed to raise to Jesus' level of love, the third time Jesus came down to Peter's level of love.

This must have cut Peter to the heart. It humbled him and made him a more suitable instrument for the Lord's service. Now Jesus speaks to Peter of the fate that would be his in that service (v. 18).

As a young man Simon had been strong, self-willed, self-determining in his life-style. He went where he wished and did what he wished. Now he was commissioned and committed to a new life which for the years ahead

would mean a life of conflict and hostility. Others would bind his outstretched hands and lead him along the road which he would not choose to go — the road to death as a martyr. He would glorify God in life; then he would glorify God in death (v. 19).

Early Christian history speaks to the fulfillment of Jesus' words of prophecy. It reports that Peter died as a martyr and that he died as his Lord had died, by crucifixion. Having spoken these solemn words, Jesus added, "Follow me," literally, "Keep on following me." There was no turning back.

Yates is pastor, First, Yazoo City.

Baptist Record

CARRIER ROUTE 33
005-DTM 291 4-04
SO BAPT HIS SOCIETY 00
127 9TH AVE N
NASHVILLE TN 37203

April 11, 1985

Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205